

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1, 11, 12 and 14 are currently being amended. No new matter is being added.

This amendment changes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-14 are now pending in this application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 11 has been amended to address the issue raised in the Office Action, and applicant submits that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph has been overcome.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 14 has been amended to be directed to a computer readable medium storing a program, and as amended is directed to statutory subject matter.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1-7 and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pub No. 2002/0023543 to Mori (hereafter "Mori"). Claims 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,832,221 to Takahashi (hereafter "Takahashi"). Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori in view of Takahashi, and further in view of U.S. Patent No.

6,883,981 to Kizaki (hereafter “Kizaki”). Applicant respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 is directed to a printing system comprising an input means, division means, first addition means, second addition means, generation means, and print means. The dividing means divides the print data into page units. The first addition means adds print setting state data to the print data of each of the page units divided by the division means. The second addition means adds page description data to the print data of each of the page units divided by the division means. The generation means generates a print job control script file for the print data divided by the division means. The print means performs printing in accordance with the print job control script file generated by the generation means. Mori, upon which the rejection of all the claims is based, at least in part, fails to disclose any of the division means, first addition means, second addition means, generation means, or print means, but in particular fails to disclose a “division means for dividing the print data input by the input means into page units.”

Mori, as discussed in the abstract, discloses an information processing apparatus in which a preview of a job that combines data to be printed output from an application is presented. An intermediate data conversion unit converts print data created by the application to an intermediate code format and stores the converted intermediate code format data and processing conditions of print data. An editing unit edits the data converted to an intermediate code format or processing conditions of the print data. A data creation unit creates print data and processing conditions that implement print processing different from the print data created by the application based on the edited data. A preview display control unit displays the print processing result in advance based on the created print data and processing conditions.

Mori, however, does not disclose the division means as recited in claim 1, nor necessarily any of the first addition means, second addition means, generation means, or print means. While Mori discloses editing of each print job in which the print data is converted into intermediate code, the print data in Mori is not divided into page units. Thus, Mori does

not disclose the division means as recited in claim 1, Moreover, because Mori does not disclose dividing the print data into page units, Mori necessarily does not disclose any of the first addition means, second addition means, generation means, or print means which perform certain functions on the divided page units. Thus, Mori fails to anticipate claim 1.

Moreover, Mori does not suggest the advantages of the apparatus of claim 1 in allowing for a re-print function capable of performing re-printing without degrading the editing function and with little deterioration in image quality. For the apparatus of claim 1, the print data may be stored as the page-unit print data together with the print state (i.e., the print setting state data and the page description data) that is set at the time of printing. Thus, re-printing of the print data is executable in the page units. In addition, the print setting state data and the page description data for each page-unit print data can be edited and stored as templates. Accordingly, the editing work can be simplified and the degradation in image quality due to the editing work can be eliminated at the same time. By contrast, Mori does not disclose or suggest the editing of the print setting state data or page description data to be added to each page-unit print data. In Mori, since no templates are used, a more complicated process is required for the editing work.

Takahashi and Kizaki were cited for other features of the claims but fail to cure the deficiencies of Mori.

Independent claims 12 and 14 recite features corresponding to those discussed above with respect to claim 1 in the context of a method claims and a computer readable medium claim, respectively, and are patentable for analogous reasons.

The dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as their respective independent claims, as well as for further patentable features recited therein.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

May 2, 2008

By

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